

Message

From: Singer, Joshua [Singer.Joshua@epa.gov]
Sent: 9/22/2021 5:40:38 PM
To: James.Scalzitti@cityofchicago.org
CC: Beckmann, Ronna Erin [beckmann.ronna@epa.gov]; Rowan, Anne [rowan.anne@epa.gov]; Walts, Alan [walts.alan@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Re: Media inquiry re: air testing, General Iron

Hi James,

Below are a few edits from our Air and Radiation Division. Also, do you feel comfortable saying that you plan to hold public meetings in the fall of 2021 to discuss the health impact assessment process and solicit community input? Thank you.

The following work is in progress:

- EPA is analyzing air ~~quality~~ monitoring data that is collected at regulatory monitoring sites ~~they collect through their monitors~~. They will produce a report for CDPH that examines air quality trends on the Southeast Side and compares air quality on the Southeast Side to other areas of Chicago.
- CDPH has retained an independent consultant that is assisting us to further model and analyze environmental impacts of the RMG-owned operations on the Southeast Side property.
- Using the health impact assessment framework, CDPH will evaluate this data - as well as other information related to health and quality-of-life considerations - to evaluate RMG's permit application.

Josh Singer
U.S. EPA, Region 5
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From: Singer, Joshua
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 11:30 AM
To: James.Scalzitti@cityofchicago.org
Cc: Beckmann, Ronna Erin <beckmann.ronna@epa.gov>; Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>; Walts, Alan <walts.alan@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Media inquiry re: air testing, General Iron

Hi James,

Here is the response we are sending to the Sun-Times. We are checking on the information you sent us to make sure it is accurate. Thank you.

U.S. EPA Response to the Sun-Times:

EPA has been analyzing existing air monitoring data in the Chicago area in response to residents' ongoing concerns about air quality on the Southeast Side and to inform the health impact assessment the City is conducting in connection with Reserve Management Group's pending permit application. EPA expects to finalize its analysis and share a report in the near future. As EPA Administrator Michael Regan emphasized in his May 2021 letter to Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot about the RMG permit, EPA is committed to working

collaboratively “to address our shared environmental priorities, advance equity, and improve the health of all residents.”

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From: James Scalzitti <James.Scalzitti@cityofchicago.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Beckmann, Ronna Erin <beckmann.ronna@epa.gov>
Subject: CDPH Media inquiry re: air testing, General Iron

Hi Ronna,

CDPH today received an inquiry from a Chicago Sun-Times reporter about air testing on the Southeast Side around the RMG Southside Recycling/General Iron site.

We have some brief bullet points we could offer in reply, but as I believe the same reporter has contacted EPA, we want to see if you think this reply sounds right and/or if you'd like to coordinate some response to the reporter.

Thanks. Let me know if you need any additional information.

CDPH is using the health impact assessment framework to analyze existing data.

The following work is in progress:

- EPA is analyzing air quality data they collect through their monitors. They will produce a report for CDPH that compares air quality on the Southeast Side to other areas of Chicago.
- CDPH has retained an independent consultant that is assisting us to further model and analyze environmental impacts of the RMG-owned operations on the Southeast Side property.
- Using the health impact assessment framework, CDPH will evaluate this data - as well as other information related to health and quality-of-life considerations - to evaluate RMG's permit application.

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